

The exterior work described in this Capitol Renovation and Repair Bulletin represents only a very small portion of the total critical repair needs of the Idaho State Capitol Building.

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Scaffolding Surrounds Small Dome and Eagle at Top of Capitol Building

Uncovering Multiple Layers of Silver Paint, Coatings From Small Dome May Reveal Sandstone Exterior

Workers can be seen high atop the Idaho Statehouse where they are removing the existing silver coatings on the **small dome** at the top of the lantern level, some 288 feet up, overlooking the Capital City.

And, according to **Jan Frew**, Design and Construction Manager, Division of Public Works, what the contractor may uncover could be somewhat of a surprise.

All the layers of existing paints and coatings will be removed down to the original substrate on the small dome directly underneath the eagle, Jan explained. "Initial scrapings indicate the small dome just may be made out of sandstone. We'll keep everyone posted," she added. The surface of the small dome will be thoroughly cleaned and a new watertight, elastomeric coating will be applied.

Work is also being done on the eagle. Several corrosion holes and cracks will be repaired. The entire surface will be cleaned, tarnish will be removed and the finish will be restored to a satin bronze. A protective wax coating will then be applied. The eagle is made of copper and is bronze-plated. It is perched atop the 26 foot lantern which is at the top of the dome proper. Including the triple pedestal of sandstone, the eagle measures 5 feet, 7 inches high.



Scaffolding surrounds the small silver dome at top of the Lantern Level on the Idaho Capitol Building.

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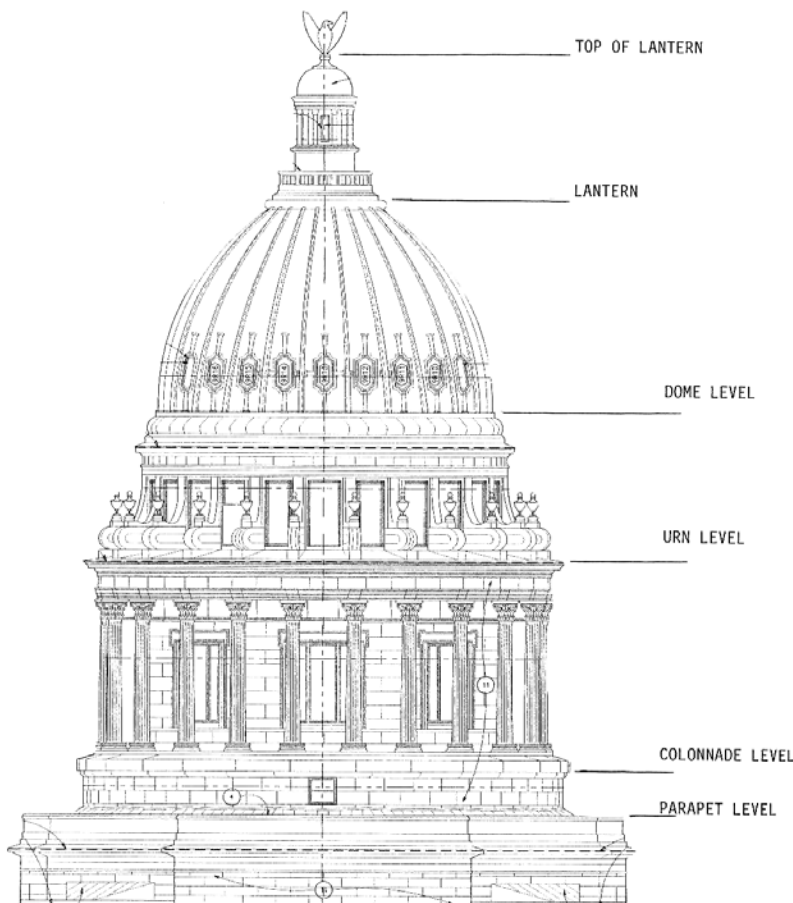
The lantern is constructed of sandstone walls and surrounded by several sandstone columns that will have repairs made to cracked and spalling areas.

The lantern also has six narrow rectangular windows that will be replaced with new windows. The new windows will be fabricated to closely replicate the existing windows. Jan says it is interesting to note that the windows that are now in place at the lantern level are not original to the building.



Sandstone columns surround the lantern walls, both need repairs to cracked and spalling areas.

As work proceeds to the dome level, the windows in the dome will be repaired and renovated. These windows are original to the building and care will be taken to restore and re-use original materials where possible.



Existing mortar repair work requires correction. (Photos by Joe Rutledge, DPW)

Special Note: If you would like to receive this newsletter in PDF format (need PDF Reader on your PC) please send an email to **Diane Blume:** dblume@adm.idaho.gov If you have further questions or comments regarding the Capitol restoration effort, please contact Diane at 332-1826. If you have story suggestions or comments regarding **Renewal News**, please contact **Pat Wynn**, at 332-1827 or pwynn@adm.idaho.gov